

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 12582 101439Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 EUR-12
/047 W

-----060333 101937Z /75

R 101429Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8948
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, EG
SUBJ: EGYPTAIR REORGANIZATION: FIRST STEP APPROVAL BY
- PEOPLES ASSEMBLY

REF: CAIRO 11243

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL AND PREVIOUSLY, EGYPTAIR HAS BEEN SEEKING CHANGE IN ITS STATUS WITHIN EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE. EGYPTAIR IS CURRENTLY A GOVERNMENT "ORGANIZATION" WHICH MEANS THAT IT IS BOUND BY GOE REGULATIONS CONCERNING HIRING AND FIRING. COMPANY HAS ANNUAL HIRING QUOTA OF ENGINEERING GRADUATES FOR WHICH IT MUST FIND JOBS; IT CANNOT FIRE EMPLOYEES FOR LACK OF PERFORMANCE. BY CHANGING LEGAL STATUS TO THAT OF PUBLIC SECTOR "COMPANY", AIRLINE WOULD BE ABLE TO MANAGE ITS OPERATIONS ON MORE ECONOMICAL BASIS.

2. ACCORDING LOCAL PRESS MAY 9, PEOPLES ASSEMBLY TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVED EGYPTAIR REORGANIZATION DRAFT LAW AT SESSION HELD PREVIOUS DAY.

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PRESUMABLY DRAFT WILL NOW GO TO PA FLOOR FOR CONSIDERATION. EXPECTATIONS ARE THAT IT WILL EASILY GAIN FULL LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL. TOTAL GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP STATUS EVIDENTLY WILL NOT CHANGE FOR TIME BEING.

3. DURING RECENT RCAA VISIT, EGYPTAIR MANAGEMENT INDICATED EAGERNESS TO COMPLETE CHANGE OF STATUS PROCESS, ESPECIALLY

IN LIGHT OF REPORTED UPTURN IN AIRLINE'S FINANCIAL SUCCESS.
WHEN QUESTIONED CLOSELY ABOUT PLANS TO HANDLE SURPLUS PERSONNEL, EGYPTAIR MANAGEMENT ADMITTED MOST CURRENT EMPLOYEES WOULD NOT LOSE JOBS BUT WOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO DIFFERENT "ACTIVITIES" NOT DIRECTLY CHARGEABLE TO CURRENT AIRLINE OPERATION. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, REORGANIZATIONS, AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO12582
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780199-0044
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780575/aaaac1xw.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dcf3b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CAIRO 11243
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2740356
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTAIR REORGANIZATION: FIRST STEP APPROVAL BY - PEOPLES ASSEMBLY
TAGS: EAIR, EG, EGYPTAIR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dcf3b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014